(b) to (d) The Central Government remains in constant touch with the State Government to monitor the Situation. The Central and State Security and Intelligence Agencies have taken measures to strengthen intelligence and maintain extra vigil on the activities of suspected disrupted elements and their supporters, with a view to checking their activities.

Recovery of Arms/Explosive from Maharashtra

227. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra has become a den for terrorists from where the large number of terrorists have been arrested;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in Maharashtra terrorists have started storing RDX, AK-47 etc. which was recently found out at Manmad; Aurangabad and Malegaon etc.;

(c) whether it is also a fact that DG Police of Maharashtra also made statement that explosives may also be found out in other cities of the State; and

(d) what action Government are contemplating to contain militant activities in Maharashtra, alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) In May, 2006, the Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS) of Maharashtra police recovered 16 AK 47 rifles, 3200 cartridges of AK series rifles, 62 magazines, 14 magazine pouches, 43 Kg. Explosive material and 50 hand grenades etc. Sixteen persons have so far been arrested by the police in this connection. Also, a terrorist attack at the RSS headquarters in Nagpur was foiled and three terrorists involved in the attack were killed in encounter with the police.

(c) During the press conference on 10th May, 2006 after the recovery of a large cache of arms, ammunition, explosives and RDX near Aurangabad, one member of the media had asked whether the police have been able to recover the entire RDX. In response thereto, D.G.P. Maharashtra said that he could not rule out the presence of more RDX.

Subsequently, the State Police did recover more arms, ammunition and explosives including RDX from Malegaon.

(d) In order to curb terrorists activities, the Government has pursued a multi-pronged approach which includes strengthening the border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, improved technology, weaponry and equipments for security forces both at the Centre and in the States, neutralizing plans of terrorist groups and anti-national elements.

Besides, the State Government has proposed to set up units of Anti Terrorist Squad (A.T.S.) at Aurangabad and Nagpur.

Amendment in Labour Laws in SEZs

†228. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to amend labour laws for labourers working in the special economic zone during coming years, has come forth;

(b) if so, the details of this proposal; and

(c) whether any decision has also been taken by Government to implement these proposals and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Increase in working hours

229. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering increase in working hours for workers;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.